Change of Name of 'Ahmedabad' to 'Karnavati'

3881. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any recommendation from the State Government of Gujarat to change the name of Ahmedabad city to Karnavati;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that name of the city is proposed to be changed only because it has been named after a Muslim ruler;

(d) if so, the justification therefor;

(e) whether Government are aware that Ahmedabad was never known as Karnavati in the past rather a cantonment area nearby was known as Karnavati; and

(f) if so, whether Governemnt propose to reject the suggestion of the State Government which has a religious bias in it?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) to (f) The State Government of Gujarat has sent a proposal to change the name of Ahmedabad city to Karnavati. The proposal is under examination in the light of the existing guidelines on the subject.

Smuggling at Kutch Border

3882. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in the recent past, arms and narcotics smuggling through the Kutch border in Gujarat has increased manifold particularly after the international border in Punjab have been sealed and fencing of border in Rajasthan is nearing completion;

(b) if so, the details of cases detected, quantities of arms and narcotics nabbed and confiscated and number of smugglers arrested on Kutch border during the last three years, year-wise; and

(c) the preventive measures being taken by Government to contain smuggling at Kutch border?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. No perceptible increase in the smuggling of arms and narcotics has been noticed in the recent past on the Kutch border after erection of fencing on Punjab and Rajasthan border. The year-wise details of cases registered, arms and narcotics seized and no. of smugglers arrested are as under:—

Year	No. of cases registered	Seizures made		Arrest of smugglers
		Arms	Narcotics	
1995	2	AK Rifle (6 Nos) Assault Rifle-I	Charas (24 kgs)	—
1996	1	—	Heroin (1 kg) Charas (4.8 kg.)	—
1997	2	Pistols (China made-19) Revolver (Pak made-I)	Charas (131 kg)	—

Year	No. of cases registered	Seizures made		Arrest of smugglers
		Arms	Narcotics	
1997		AK 56 Rifle-5 Bolt Action Sniper Rifle-I		

(c) The following preventive measures have been taken:—

(i) Patrolling/Nakas have been increased/intensified.

(ii) Mobile border patrolling has been intensified by providing jeeps and motor cycles.

(iii) Special operations are undertaken from time to time.

(iv) Night vision Devices have been provided for better observation during night.

(v) Boats/motor boats have been provided for patrolling the creek area.

(vi) Border roads/tracks are being developed for vehicular patrolling.

(vii) Helicopter being used for effective air surveillance of border.

Modernisation of Police

3883. SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI:
SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Tenth Finance Commission have recommended for the modernisation of police training/forces and upgradation of police telecommunication system for Delhi Police; and

(b) if so, the total amount of money spent so far on the above subjects and by when the above proposals are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) The Tenth Finance Commission has made certain recommendations in regard to police training, police telecommunications, etc. However, these recommendations relate to the States, and not Union territories.

Crime in Mumbai

3884. SHRIMATI CHANDRA KALA PANDEY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news-item "Mumbai witness spurt in killings criminals have lost fear of cops, admits senior police official" published in "Hindustan Times" dated 5th July, 1998;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto;

(c) whether Government propose to send any team to Maharashtra to assess the law and order situation in Mumbai; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 'Police' is a State subject as per the provisions of the Constitution of India. It is primarily for the State Governments to take effective measures in order to check crime and instill confidence in the public